

Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Real Property Committee Report

February 13, 2019

Let me begin where I left off in October 2018, with more disappointment. The "Fall Cleanup" held on November 18th, yielded 2 SAR members and 1 Coast Guard Academy cadet. This was a lot of back breaking work, more than enough for 3 people.

At the end of December into early January, we experienced a heating unit malfunction in the War Office. After one of the several power outages, the heating units failed to restart. D&S Comfort Control chased it to several faulty sensors, eliminating the feared burned out circuit board. Parts and labor totaled \$375.

The Property Committee met on January 19th, to discuss the budget for 2019 and to set the calendar, establish docent hours and wages. It was determined to continue with paid docents, but remove them from payroll and have them file via 1099. We raised their hourly rate to \$12. This should be more than enough to offset any expenses they might incur. We have set a limit of 240 paid hours for New London, excluding school program hours. The limit for Lebanon will be set as 140 paid hours. It has been suggested that we recruit more DAR members as volunteers. Better yet, having more SAR members would ease the whole situation. This annual budget is probably the largest submitted to date. Expenses and maintenance have risen significantly over the last few years. This puts many needed projects on hold until other funding becomes available.

These projects include; plastering, painting 1st floor ceiling, exterior repairs, painting in New London. The estimate for both projects totals \$29,402, with a request of \$15,000 grant through the Frank Loomis Palmer Fund, still pending. In East Haddam, flagpole repairs \$2,231 and driveway crushed stone resurface, estimate needed. The property drainage problem at the War Office needs to be addressed, again, with planning and an estimate required. Electrical updating at

the War Office includes; interior lighting, outlets, replace flagpole lighting and building power surge protection at \$2,335.

Most of these items are in our long range planning to accommodate the eventual Coast Guard Museum and the possibility of hosting NSSAR Congress in 2023.

A decision was made to deplete the merchandise inventory, no new orders will be placed and reduced pricing of remaining items. We will continue to have Challenge Coins available at the set price of \$10 each.

Scheduling has begun for the Spring School Programs, East Haddam School Days will be on Friday, June 7th, pending verification from the East Haddam Elementary School. Lebanon area elementary schools; April 26, May 17, May 28 and 3 unscheduled dates in June. The New London Magnet Elementary Schools are interested in 3 double session days, last week of April through first week of May. We have remaining Society of the Cincinnati grant funds from 2018 that will cover the cost of educational materials and docent wages. A grant has been submitted to the Society of the Cincinnati for 2019, to cover any additional expenses.

There is an outstanding grant for \$1,500 that was secured several years ago from the Society of the Cincinnati, it was to be applied to new Computer/Scanner equipment to assist in the cataloging of our archives. Joshua Taylor has done an amazing job on this project. To assist him further, we will now purchase that needed upgrade.

Respectfully submitted,
David Packard
CTSSAR Real Property Steward